

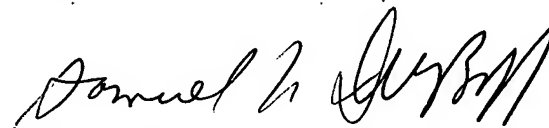
REMARKS

Applicants submit this Amendment in response to the Non-final Official Action dated December 15, 2005. Claims 1-5 and 8-14 are pending in the application, the remaining claims 6,7 and 15-34 having been withdrawn pursuant to a restriction requirement. Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 2-5 will be cancelled and claim 1 will be amended to include the limitations of claims 2-5. Similarly claim 11 will be cancelled and its limitations, as well as those of original claim 1, included in claim 12. This is in accordance with the Examiner's indication in the present Official Action that claims 5 and 12 were allowable with such amendments. A clean copy of the claims with amendments included, is enclosed herewith.

Since remaining claims 8-10, 13 and 14 are directly or indirectly dependent on amended claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are also allowable.

In view of the above mentioned amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claim rejections under 35 USC 102 and 35 USC 103 are now obviated and should be withdrawn. Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: March 15, 2006

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this Amendment and Response is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 15, 2006.

Dated: March 15, 2006


Joan Simmons